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OT Oceanographic data.
IT Limnological data.
and
CART Information concerning fisheries and resources of certain countries and regions (FID/S).

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MAST Renseignements sur des méthodes et des sujets.
OT Données océanographiques.
IT Données limnologiques.
et
CART Renseignements sur les pêcheries et les ressources de certains pays et régions (FID/S).

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SAST Datos relativos a ciertas especies y poblaciones.
MAST Sinopsis sobre métodos y materias.
OT Sinopsis sobre oceanografía.
IT Sinopsis sobre limnología.
y
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MFS Provisional editions of "FAO Manuals in Fisheries Science."

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MFS Editions provisoires des "Manuels FAO de science halieutique".

Il arrive que certains documents portent d'autres numéros d'identification, comme c'est le cas s'ils ont été préparés pour une réunion dont les documents ont été marqués à l'aide d'un autre système.

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**ESTABLISHMENT, STRUCTURE, FUNCTIONS AND ACTIVITIES OF
INTERNATIONAL FISHERIES BODIES**

**V - GENERAL FISHERIES COUNCIL
FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN (GFCM)**

by

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PREPARATION OF THIS PAPER

This paper presents a factual analysis of the organisation, aims and methods of the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean and appends for convenience of readers, the Statutes and Rules of procedure of the Council.

Distribution

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C O N T E N T S

	<u>Page</u>
1. INTRODUCTION	1
2. HISTORY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GFCM	1
3. AREA COVERED BY THE GFCM AGREEMENT	2
4. STATUS OF THE GFCM IN RELATION TO FAO	3
5. MEMBERSHIP OF THE GFCM	5
5.1 <u>Eligibility</u>	5
5.2 <u>Territorial application</u>	7
5.3 <u>Reservations</u>	7
5.4 <u>Withdrawal</u>	7
6. GRANTING OF OBSERVER STATUS TO NATIONS	8
7. FUNCTIONS OF THE GFCM	8
7.1 <u>Scope of functions</u>	8
7.2 <u>Nature of functions</u>	9
8. STRUCTURE OF THE GFCM AND ORGANIZATION OF ITS WORK	11
8.1 <u>Sessions of the GFCM</u>	11
8.1.1 Regular Sessions	11
8.1.2 Special Sessions	12
8.1.3 Voting	12
8.1.4 Agenda	12
8.2 <u>Executive Committee</u>	12
8.3 <u>Technical Committees and Working Parties</u>	13
8.4 <u>Editorial Board</u>	14
8.5 <u>Secretariat</u>	14
9. FINANCING	15
9.1 <u>Financial obligations of Members</u>	15
9.2 <u>Financial obligations of FAO</u>	16

	<u>Page</u>
10. LIAISON WITH INTERNATIONAL BODIES	17
10.1 <u>General</u>	17
10.2 <u>International Bodies having a Special Interest in the Mediterranean and Contiguous Areas</u>	18
10.2.1 <u>International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea</u>	19
10.2.2 <u>European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission (EIFAC)</u>	20
10.2.3 <u>Joint Commission for Black Sea Fisheries</u>	21
10.2.4 <u>UNESCO</u>	21
10.2.5 <u>Mediterranean Association for Marine Biology and Oceanology (MAMBO)</u>	22
11. REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS OF GFCM	22
 <u>ANNEX I</u>	
AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GFCM	25
RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE GFCM	31
 <u>ANNEX II</u>	
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATION OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AND THE GENERAL FISHERIES COUNCIL FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN	38

1. INTRODUCTION

This paper is the fifth in a series the purpose of which is to review the establishment, structure, functions and activities of international fishery bodies. Papers I, II, III and IV dealt respectively with the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council (IPFC), the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC), the Regional Fisheries Advisory Commission for the South West Atlantic (CARPAS)¹ and the Permanent Commission of the Conference on the Use and Conservation of the Marine Resources of the South Pacific.

The object of this paper is to present a factual analysis of the organization, aims and methods of the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean (GFCM)², which was established in 1949 under the aegis of FAO, pursuant to Article XIV of the FAO Constitution.

The GFCM was the second fishery council to be formed under Article XIV of the FAO Constitution, the first being the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council (IPFC). Their organization, structure and functions are on the whole analogous. As fishery councils established under Article XIV of the FAO Constitution, their purpose is to play an advisory role and compile, analyse and interpret information mainly through the getting together of national representatives having a common interest in the conservation and the management of a common fishery resource. The essential aim is to seek agreement as to the action to be taken, either through the FAO, by each government or by the councils themselves. Unlike fishery commissions established under Article VI-1 of the FAO Constitution, these councils although partly dependent on the FAO, may have separate budgets for cooperative activities³.

2. HISTORY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GFCM

The FAO Conference at its First Session held in Quebec in October 1945 recommended that Member Governments be invited to consider the desirability of arranging periodic conferences between regional authorities, including the establishment of national and international councils for the study of the sea⁴. The possibility of setting up such councils under the aegis of the FAO was discussed at the Second Session of the FAO Conference held in Copenhagen in September 1946. The Conference approved the report of the Standing Advisory Committee on Fisheries which recommended that councils be set up in parts of the world not served by similar bodies. The Mediterranean Sea and contiguous waters were among the areas suggested for such action⁵.

At its Third Session at Geneva in August 1947, the FAO Conference passed a resolution recommending that FAO take action to initiate the formation of regional councils for the exploration of the sea in the parts of the world not actively served by similar bodies, giving primary consideration to the following areas: North Western Atlantic, South West Pacific and Indian Ocean, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous waters, North East Pacific, South Eastern Pacific, Western South Atlantic, Eastern South Atlantic and Indian Ocean⁶. The 1948 FAO Conference in Washington, the Fourth, directed that the necessary preparation toward the establishment of such fisheries council was to be commenced in such regions as, in the light of all circumstances, were to be deemed appropriate by the Director-General. Delegates from the Mediterranean stressed the need for such an organization in their area⁷.

1. See FAO Fisheries Technical Papers Fib/T57, Fib/T58 and FRm/T60.

2. Hereinafter referred to as the "Council" or the "GFCM".

3. See Section 9 for further details on the financing of the GFCM activities.

4. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, 1:35

5. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, 2:28

6. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, 3:11

7. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, 4:54-4

In July 1949 the Director-General of FAO issued invitations to Governments concerned to meet in Rome in September of that year to consider the formation of a Council for the Mediterranean. Delegates from France, Greece, Italy, Lebanon, Turkey, United Kingdom and Yugoslavia with observers from the U.S.A., Spain, the Holy See and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) attended this meeting from September 19 to 24, 1949, and drew up an Agreement for the establishment of a General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean. The Director-General presented a report on the proposed establishment of the GFCM to the Fifth Session of the FAO Conference in November 1949 which approved the Agreement for the establishment of the GFCM¹. He then submitted the Agreement to interested Member Governments for their acceptance. In order to ensure continuity, the September 1949 Meeting had established two interim committees, one on oceanographic subjects, the other on technology, charged with submitting a program of work to the new Council at its inaugural meeting².

In accordance with its Article X, the Agreement for the establishment of the GFCM (hereinafter designated as "the GFCM Agreement") came into force on 20 February 1952, date of the receipt by the Director-General of the FAO of the fifth instrument of acceptance³.

The seat of the GFCM is the office of the FAO Regional Fisheries Officer for Europe which is situated at FAO Headquarters in Rome.

The first Session of the GFCM was held at Rhodes, Greece, from 21 to 24 July 1952.

3. AREA COVERED BY THE GFCM AGREEMENT

The Third Session of the FAO Conference (1947) recommended that the boundaries of areas covered by fishery councils should be left open for discussion and determination by the nations concerned⁴. The working paper on the proposed fishery council⁵ submitted to the Rome meeting of September 1949 pointed out that in the case of the Mediterranean area, the boundaries of the geographic area of interest appeared well defined and obvious. The whole of the Mediterranean and its contiguous seas, including the Black Sea and the waters connecting it and the Mediterranean proper, formed an ecologically comparable unit, with some of the important food fishes emigrating throughout the whole range, or at least between important sub-areas. This was not the case with the Red Sea, which, in spite of geographic proximity, had more affinities toward the Indian Ocean.

At the September 1949 Meeting, the possibility of including the Black Sea, the Red Sea and the Western part of the Indian Ocean was discussed. It was finally agreed that Article IV of the now amended GFCM Agreement would provide that the Council was competent to carry out its functions in the "Mediterranean waters as they are geographically described". However, the Preamble to the Agreement mentioned "the Mediterranean and contiguous waters" as the area in which the signatory governments had a mutual interest in the development and proper utilization of the resources. At its First Special Session in 1963, the Council approved several amendments to the GFCM Agreement. One of them was the replacement of Article IV of the 1949 GFCM Agreement by Article V of the Amended Agreement which provided that the Council shall carry out its functions and responsibilities in the region referred to in the Preamble, that is, "the Mediterranean and contiguous waters".

1. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, 5:50
2. Report on the FAO Meeting on Proposed Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean, Rome, September 19-24, 1949, (FAO/49.9/709a, revised).
3. The first five countries to have accepted the GFCM Agreement were as follows: Italy (29 May 1950); United Kingdom (20 November 1950); Egypt (19 February 1951); Yugoslavia (12 October 1951); Israel (20 February 1952).
4. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, 3:11
5. Working Paper on Proposed Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean, P49/Co.6.

The GFCM's geographic area of interest is thus relatively small, well defined and is identical to that of the International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea (ICSEM) set up in 1919¹.

In addition, the Council has from its Second Session in Rome, 26-29 October 1953, when it set up an inland waters Committee², concerned itself with inland fisheries of its member countries, although the Agreement nowhere specifically includes inland waters in its area of competence. In fact it would appear to specifically restrict this area to sea areas³. Mention should be made in this connection of the establishment by FAO in 1957 of the European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission whose area of competence is the inland waters of member countries, a large number of which border the Mediterranean. The relations between these two bodies and the possibilities of an overlapping of functions is examined in greater detail in Section 10.2.2 of the present monograph.

4. STATUS OF THE GFCM IN RELATION TO FAO

The Agreement establishing the GFCM was concluded under the aegis of FAO and comes within the scope of the provisions of Article XIV of the FAO Constitution. This Article governs the conventions and agreements concerning questions relating to food and agriculture (including fisheries) which the Conference and, under certain conditions the Council of the Organization may approve and submit to Member Nations. It also deals with the bodies which may be established under the conventions and agreements so concluded. At its Ninth Session in 1957, the FAO Conference recognized that any multilateral convention or agreement between Member Nations may undoubtedly provide for the establishment of a commission or an executive body with specific tasks falling within the terms of reference of the FAO but stressed that this should not be an end in itself since under Article VI of the Constitution the Conference and the Council are empowered to establish such bodies merely by a decision on their part. Thus, any convention or agreement concluded under Article XIV of the Constitution amongst Member Nations of the Organization should entail financial or other obligations going beyond those already assumed under the Constitution of the Organization. The setting up of such a body was justified only when the agreement presupposed the assumption of specific obligations going beyond mere participation in the work of the body thus established⁴.

Also at its Ninth Session the FAO Conference adopted a detailed set of principles and procedures relating to the conventions and agreements concluded under Article XIV of the FAO Constitution. Parties to existing conventions and agreements were invited to bring them into line with the principles adopted by the Conference⁵. The Council and its Executive Committee⁶ gave special attention to these recommendations and considered amendments to the GFCM Agreement and Rules of Procedure proposed by the Director-General. Amendments adopted at its Sixth Session, in Rome, 22-28 September 1960⁷ were submitted for the consideration of the 11th Session of the FAO Conference held in Rome in November 1961. The Conference concurred with certain of these amendments but invited the GFCM to consider additional amendments⁸. The Council at its Seventh Session unanimously agreed to call a special Session to review the whole matter⁹. The Special Session, held in Rome on 21-22 May 1963 unanimously adopted a revised text of the GFCM Agreement which was in turn submitted to the 12th Session of the FAO Conference.

1. See Section 10.2.1 for details on relations between the GFCM and ICSEM.
2. Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM, 2:3-13.
3. GFCM Agreement, Preamble, Article V.
4. Rep.Sess. Conf. FAO, Vol. 9:181, par. 507-8.
5. Rep.Sess. Conf. FAO, Vol. 9:180-3 par. 503-9.
6. See Section 8.2 for further details concerning the Executive Committee.
7. Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM, 6:10.
8. Rep.Sess. Conf. FAO, Vol. 11: 69-70, par. 468-70.
9. Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM, 7:11.

By its Resolution No. 39/63 the Twelfth Session of the Conference approved the revised text¹.

As a body set up by an international agreement concluded under Article XIV of the FAO Constitution², the GFCM constitutes an entity distinct from the Organization. However, since the Council has been established and operates within the framework of the FAO, it is not completely independent. This question was discussed by the FAO Conference at its Ninth Session held in 1957. The Conference made a distinction between the bodies which should be considered as entirely independent entities with only working relations with the Organization and the bodies established within the framework of the Organization under the relevant Articles of its Constitution, including Article XIV. It went on to adopt a Resolution on "semi-independent bodies", which also covers those set up under Article XIV of the Constitution³.

As main limitations to the autonomy of the GFCM, it may be pointed out that the amendments to the GFCM Agreement which are approved by the required two-thirds majority of all the Members of the Council, become effective only after concurrence of the FAO Council unless the latter considers it desirable to refer the amendments to the Conference of the Organization⁴. Likewise, the Rules of Procedure of the Council and any amendments thereto come into force as from the date of approval by the Director-General of FAO, subject to confirmation by the Council of the Organization⁵. Mention may also be made of the report which the Council must transmit biennially to the Director-General of FAO⁶.

As a consequence of the GFCM being in the FAO framework and having its secretariat provided by the FAO, the collaboration between FAO and the GFCM is very close. In practice the GFCM relies heavily on FAO resources and responsibility for initiative and action is based on a two-way process. Information and requests emanate from the Council contributing to the FAO programme, whilst FAO by providing services as required and often acting as a stimulus, obtains information and assistance from GFCM and its Member Governments in the development of its programmes. Officers of FAO are present at meetings of the Council and its technical committees⁷, take active part in technical discussions, and often represent the GFCM at international fisheries meetings. The GFCM Secretariat works closely with the Department of Fisheries of FAO to coordinate joint activities and keep GFCM well informed of FAO activities, especially when they are of interest to Member Countries. In particular there has been collaboration in the following fields:

Fishery resources and exploitation: general and specific advice and technical help was given on the physical oceanography and limnology (preparation of the Synopsis of Information on the Mediterranean), gear operation and efficiency (experimental work conducted with the collaboration of the Italian and Israeli governments), systematics, taxonomy and nomenclature of aquatic stocks (preparation of catalogues of marine fishes,

1. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, Vol. 12:84-5, par. 500
2. It may be mentioned that the only other existing Fisheries Council established by an agreement concluded under Article XIV of the FAO Constitution is the IPFC. (See FAO Fisheries Technical Paper No. 57) - an agreement for the establishment of a Latin-American Fisheries Council (1951) did not receive the required number of acceptances to bring it into force.
3. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, Vol. 9:183-4, par. 510
4. GFCM Agreement, Article VIII.
5. GFCM Agreement, Article II (7).
6. GFCM Agreement, Article IV (k).
7. See Sections 8.2, 8.3 and 8.4 for further details as to the GFCM Committees and subsidiary bodies.

crustacea and mollusco names), stock fluctuation and population studies, etc.

Further to these, special technical help has been extended to the scientists engaged in sardine studies through the medium of a working group established by the GFCM. In this connection a training course was held on tagging with special reference to sardine, and special forms for the collection of specific data for population analysis were prepared and distributed to the member countries for their field use.

In the field of legislation a compilation of existing regulations for sardine fishing was made and distributed to the member countries. The member countries are also invited to make full use of the intelligence and documentation services operated by FAO.

Fisheries Economics and Statistics including: the development of a regionally standardized statistical reporting system for catch, effort, fleet and manpower statistics to be introduced in the Mediterranean area in the near future.

In addition, reports on FAO activities including Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance (EPTA)¹ missions have been put at the disposal of the Council; seminars and scientific meetings² have been organized, and experts on, inter alia, fish processing, fishing gear and methods, have been sent to carry out surveys in Mediterranean countries.

In this context it is worth mentioning that the Advisory Committee on Marine Resources Research (ACMRR) at its Second Session in Rome, 6-12 February 1964, noted some inadequacy in the FAO support of its regional bodies and recommended for this and other reasons that a working group be set up to propose ways in which the work of these bodies be made more effective³. The ACMRR Working Party which met in Rome from 9 to 13 January 1967 was of the opinion that regional fishery bodies such as the GFCM should act directly and with especial initiative with regard to the resources of their region and be assisted in this by the FAO. In respect of other matters their role should be that of assisting the FAO in its programme of work. It was vital that FAO should be provided with facilities and finance to service such bodies and ensure that they be instruments of FAO policy. Steps should therefore be taken to increase FAO financial and staffing support of the Council⁴.

5. MEMBERSHIP OF THE GFCM

5.1 Eligibility

Any Member Nation of FAO may become a member of the Council by depositing an instrument of acceptance of the GFCM Agreement with the Director-General of the FAO. Acceptance of the Agreement takes effect on receipt of such instrument by the Director-General⁵.

1. Now part of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).
2. Examples are: World Scientific Meeting on the Biology of Sardines and related species, Rome, 14-21 September 1959; World Scientific Meeting on the Biology of Tunas and related species, La Jolla, California, 2-14 July 1962; FAO/GFCM Seminar on Sardine Tagging, Split, Yugoslavia, 2-14 November 1964 (FAO EPTA Report No. 1995).
3. Report of the Second Session of the ACMRR, Rome, 6-12 February 1964 (ACMRR/2/Rec. 14); Report of the 3rd Session of the ACMRR, Rome, 1-8 March 1965 (ACMRR/3/Rec.1).
4. Report of the ACMRR Working Party on FAO Regional Fisheries Councils and Commissions, Rome, 12-16 January 1967 (ACMRR: 4/67/WP.27, 14 January 1967) pp. 2, 4, 9, 21, 23.
5. GFCM Agreement, Articles I(2) and IX (1 and 4).

Any Associate Member of FAO may become a Member of the Council by depositing an instrument of acceptance of the GFCM Agreement with the Director-General of FAO. Acceptance of the Agreement takes effect on receipt of such instrument by the Director-General. It should be noted that in the case of Associate Members, FAO is requested to submit the GFCM Agreement to the authority having responsibility for the internal relations of such Associate Members¹.

Any non-member nation of FAO which is a member of the United Nations and wishes to become a member of the Council must submit an application for membership and a declaration made in a formal instrument that it accepts the GFCM Agreement as in force at the time of admission. The Council may, by a two-thirds majority of its membership, approve such application, in which case the non-member nation of FAO becomes a Member of the Council on the date on which the Council approves the application of memberships. However, participation by such a nation in the activities of the Council is contingent upon the assumption of a proportionate share in the expense of the GFCM².

The provisions restricting membership to Members or Associate Members of FAO or Members of the United Nations only, came into force as of 22 May 1963 in the form of Amendments to the original Agreement establishing the GFCM. As a result a proviso was added at the same time to the effect that provisions restricting membership to members of the United Nations does not affect the membership status of such nations that are not members of the United Nations as were parties to the Agreement prior to 22 May 1963. This is the case for Monaco, which is neither a member of the FAO nor of the United Nations.

Membership is thus, except for Monaco, dependent upon a country being a Member Nation or an Associate Member of FAO or a Member of the UN, whether or not it is situated in the "Mediterranean and contiguous waters" and whether or not its nationals or vessels actually carry out fishing operations in that area. Attention should be drawn however to the Preamble of the GFCM Agreement where it is stated that the Contracting Governments have a mutual interest in the development and proper utilization of the resources of the "Mediterranean and contiguous waters".³

1. GFCM Agreement, Articles IX(1), IX(4) and I(2).
2. GFCM Agreement, Articles IX (2 and 3).
3. Member Nations as of 1 April 1968 are:

<u>States</u>	<u>Date of receipt of instrument of acceptance</u>
Algeria	11 Dec. 1967
Cyprus	10 June 1965
France	8 July 1952
Greece	7 April 1952
Israel	20 Feb. 1952
Italy	29 May 1950
Lebanon	14 Nov. 1960
Libya	13 May 1963
Malta	29 April 1965
Monaco	14 May 1954
Morocco	17 Sept. 1956
Spain	19 Oct. 1953
Tunisia	22 June 1954
Turkey	6 April 1954
United Arab Republic (Egypt)	19 Feb. 1951
Yugoslavia	12 Oct. 1951

5.2 Territorial application

When accepting the GFCM Agreement, states must indicate explicitly to which territories their participation shall extend. In the absence of such a declaration, participation shall be deemed to apply to all the territories for the international relations of which the new member is responsible¹.

The present Members of the Council submitted their instrument of acceptance without stating to which territories their participation extended, since such a declaration was not required under the provision of the GFCM Agreement in force at that time. The Agreement was amended in this respect in 1963².

5.3 Reservations

Acceptance of the GFCM Agreement may be made subject to reservations, which become effective only upon unanimous approval by the Members of the Council. The Director-General of FAO notifies forthwith all Members of the Council of any reservations. Members of the Council not having replied within three months from the date of the notifications are deemed to have accepted the reservation. Failing such approval, the nation making the reservation does not become a party to the Agreement³. There has been no need so far to apply this procedure.

5.4 Withdrawal

Any Member may withdraw from the GFCM Agreement at any time after the expiration of two years from the date upon which the Agreement entered into force with respect to that Member, by giving written notice of such withdrawal to the Director-General of FAO. Notice of withdrawal shall become effective three months from the date of its receipt by the Director-General⁴. The United Kingdom withdrew from the GFCM Agreement on 25 June 1968.

A member of the Council may give notice of withdrawal with respect to one or more of the territories for the international relations of which it is responsible. When a Member gives notice of its own withdrawal from the Council, it shall state to which territory or territories the withdrawal is to apply. In the absence of such a declaration, the withdrawal shall be deemed to apply to all the territories for the international relations of which the Member of the Council is responsible, except that such withdrawal shall not be deemed to apply to an Associate Member⁵.

Any Member of the Council that gives notice of withdrawal from FAO shall be deemed to have simultaneously withdrawn from the Council, and this withdrawal shall be deemed to apply to all the territories for the international relations of which the Member concerned is responsible, exception being made for Associate Members. After having withdrawn from FAO, a state could eventually submit an application for membership in the GFCM, provided it is a Member of the United Nations.

If the number of Members of the Council should drop below five, the GFCM Agreement is automatically terminated, unless the remaining Members unanimously decide otherwise⁶.

1. GFCM Agreement, Article XI.
2. GFCM Agreement, Article XI: see also Section 4 above.
3. GFCM Agreement, Article IX (7).
4. GFCM Agreement, Article XII (1).
5. GFCM Agreement, Article XII (2).
6. GFCM Agreement, Article XIV.

6. GRANTING OF OBSERVER STATUS TO NATIONS

Members and Associate Members of FAO that are not Members of the Council may, upon their request, be represented by an observer at sessions of the Council and its subsidiary bodies¹.

Nations that are not Members of the Council, nor Member or Associate Members of FAO, but are Members of the United Nations may, upon request, and with the approval of the Council of FAO and of the GFCM, attend sessions of the GFCM and its subsidiary bodies in an observer capacity².

In both cases, attendance is governed by the Statement of Principles relating to the granting of observer status to nations, as adopted by the FAO Conference at its Ninth Session in 1957³ and as further clarified by the Conference at its Tenth Session in 1959⁴. Unless the Council expressly determines otherwise, observers may attend the plenary meetings of the Council and may participate in the discussions. Observers may also attend and participate in any technical committee sessions which they may be invited to attend⁵.

7. FUNCTIONS OF THE GFCM

7.1 Scope of functions

When discussing, at its Third Session in 1947, the proposed establishment of regional fisheries councils, the FAO Conference stressed that the full utilization of the resources of the sea must rest upon scientific inquiry and noted that these councils would furnish the means of furthering this end by international co-operation. At its Fourth Session, in 1948, the Conference emphasized again that basic knowledge on sea and fresh-water fisheries was essential to secure a maximum continuous yield. It went on to say that the facets of the scientific problems involved were so intricate and the field so extensive and international in nature, that it was beyond the capacity of any one nation to secure adequate information by itself in a completely effective manner⁶.

The Preamble to the GFCM Agreement refers in a general way to the mutual interest of the Contracting Governments "in the development and proper utilization of the resources of the Mediterranean and contiguous waters" and to their desire "to further the attainment of these ends through international co-operation". The functions and duties assigned to the Council with these ends in view are specified in detail⁷. They may be summarized as follows:

1. To formulate problems
2. To encourage and co-ordinate research.
3. To publish.
4. To recommend research and development projects.
5. To undertake research and development projects.
6. To promote standardization.
7. To make comparative studies of fishery legislation.
8. To encourage research into the fishermen's working conditions.
9. To assist in the procurement of essential materials.
10. To report on particular problems.
11. To report to the FAO.

1. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule XII (2).
2. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule XII (3).
3. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, vol. 9:177-8, par. 498-9.
4. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, vol. 10:238, par. 598.
5. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule XII (4).
6. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, 4:53
7. GFCM Agreement, Article IV.

The functions of the GFCM are very broad in the sense that they cover the biological environmental, scientific and technical aspects of the problems of development and rational utilization of living aquatic resources. The terms of reference of its technical committees, which were adopted at its Fifth Session¹ may serve to illustrate the extent of its attributions. The Council was able to refer questions relating to: fisheries to the Exploration Committee; fishing techniques (methods and gear), manpower and fisheries administration to the Production Committee; methods and processes permitting the supply to consumers of fishery products to the Utilization Committee; fish culture, utilization of freshwater fishery products and administrative matters and regulations to the Inland Waters Committee; economics, statistics, and regulations concerning Mediterranean Fisheries, to the Economics and Statistics Committee².

7.2 Nature of functions

The functions of the Council are essentially advisory in character. Unlike certain international fishery commissions operating in other parts of the world³, the Council does not have the power to regulate fisheries by prescribing, for example, open and closed seasons, minimum size of mesh for nets, size limits for fish or overall catch limits. It is only empowered to make recommendations for action by Members on any matters pertaining to its functions⁴. In practice these have been numerous and covered a wide range of subjects⁵.

At the close of each session, the conclusions and recommendations of the Council are transmitted to the Director-General of FAO, who circulates them through the Secretary to Members of the Council, Member Nations, Associate Members and international organizations that were represented at the session and makes them available to other Member Nations and Associate Members of the FAO for their information⁶. The Director-General may require Members of the Council to supply himself or the Council with information on action taken on the basis of recommendations made by the Council⁷.

1. Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM, 5:11-3.
2. See Section 8.4 for further details regarding technical committees and Working Parties of the GFCM.
3. The Joint Commission for Black Sea Fisheries for example - see Section 10.2.3.
4. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule XV.
5. Resolutions and Recommendations passed at Council Sessions for action by members have covered, inter alia, the following subjects; organization of GFCM (3rd Session); biology of edible species (*ibid*); migration of tuna and tagging of fish (2nd, 6th and 7th Sessions); safety and working conditions of fishermen (4th and 7th Sessions); risk to hydrological system in Mediterranean regions (4th Session); dangers from discharge of waste or sewage into rivers (*ibid*); statistics (4th, 7th and 8th Sessions); fish names (4th Session); marking of young tunas (*ibid*); study of trawling grounds of Mediterranean (*ibid*); congress of fishing gear (*ibid*); documentation on saline lagoons (*ibid*); carp and fish diseases (*ibid*); list and catalogue of freshwater fish in natural lakes, barrage lakes, streams and lagoons (5th and 8th Sessions); study of Eastern part of Mediterranean and programme on tuna research (6th Session); fishing charts (*ibid*); study of international standardization of fish-packing (*ibid*); study of artificial reproduction of *Mugil capito* and inventory of stocks in salmonid waters (*ibid*); demonstration and study of fishing boats gear and methods existing in different Mediterranean countries (*ibid*); frozen fish (7th Session); limiting factors in the disposal of catches (*ibid*); regional and sub-regional plans for fisheries development based on natural facilities combined with various sources of technical assistance from United Nations and other sources (8th Session); international tagging programme in Mediterranean area (*ibid*); research on concentration, location of pelagic fish shoals and environmental factors (*ibid*).
6. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule XIV (4).
7. *Ibid.*, Rule XIV (6).

Apart from the recommendations to its Member Governments, the Council may also address recommendations to FAO. These recommendations have concerned publications, the strengthening of the Secretariat, the convening of subsidiary bodies or the organization of training centres, seminars, or the work of FAO in the context of fisheries¹. It should also be remembered that as the Governments which are members of GFCM (except for Monaco) are also represented at sessions of the FAO Conference, the Council can offer advice to its Member Governments as to what, in its opinion, would best be included in the FAO program for the development of fisheries in the Mediterranean area.

The Programme of Work of the GFCM, established and elaborated at its 1st and 2nd Sessions², has not suffered any great changes since then except for changes in detail and emphasis. It includes, inter alia, the study of species, problems concerning fisheries biology and production, fishing boats, gears, methods and grounds, fisheries administration, statistics, regulations and control, vocational training of fishermen, social security and health, fish processing and trade, administrative legislation and regulation of inland fisheries, fish culture and pollution.

Each item is in turn designated as forming part of the individual program of one of the five technical committees. Each committee is thus required to report to the Council on what particular item in conformity with the decisions of the Council as to the way in which the work must be carried out and the priority to be given to any particular item.

The nature of an organization's functions is closely related to the question of its effectiveness in carrying out those functions. Since its early years the Sessions of the GFCM have, as indicated above, covered a very wide range of subjects. All in all the Council has, up to 15 May 1965, made 111 recommendations, of which 31 have been addressed to member countries and 29 to the FAO, and 30 Resolutions³. Each Council Session has shown a tendency to cover much the same ground as previous sessions. In addition there appears to have been greater interest in basic as opposed to applied research. The figures given here, although approximate, would seem to suggest that the very number and generality of the recommendations may have diminished the effectiveness of the Council. The ACMRR Working Party on FAO Regional Fisheries Councils and Commissions, in assessing the significance of regional fisheries Councils, found that they had failed in fulfilling the high hopes placed in them and become ineffective as instruments of fishery policy for their member countries. With regard to the GFCM, it recommended

1. GFCM Recommendations to the FAO have covered, inter alia, the following subjects: increase in FAO/GFCM budget (2nd Session); creation of legislative section in FAO Fisheries Division (3rd Session); establishment of international information centre for fish culture (*ibid*); information on propaganda for fish consumption (4th and 5th Sessions); study to improve efficiency of Mediterranean trawl (*ibid*); establishment of training centers for statisticians and for detection of fish by echo sounders (4th, 5th and 6th Sessions); protection of hulls of wooden and steel boats (5th Session); study on utilization of echo sounders (*ibid*); fishing with lights (5th and 6th Sessions); bibliography of semi-preserves (*ibid*); fishery statistics (5th and 7th Sessions); standardization of fish packing (6th and 7th Sessions); study of tuna fish canning (6th Session); frozen fish (7th Session); Limiting factors on the disposal of catches (*ibid*); fishery development projects in the Mediterranean region (8th Session); strengthening of FAC Fisheries Division and improving assistance to GFCM (*ibid*); synopses on cultured fish (*ibid*).
2. Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM 1:3
Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM 2:4-9.
3. These figures are subject to the reservation that the terms "recommendations" and "resolutions" are loose used here and are merely indicative of a request, wish, desire or recommendation of the GFCM for action of some kind. This inability to provide a more precise definition is due to the fact that the reports of the early sessions of the GFCM do not themselves use any special terminology or lay-out to distinguish recommendations from resolutions.

that steps be taken to increase its effectiveness and to ensure active participation by Member Governments¹.

Recently the GFCM has itself manifested its desire to emphasize its efforts toward fisheries development. At its 8th Session the Council adopted a recommendation outlining a new line of action for promoting fisheries development through regional or sub-regional projects with the aid of international sources of technical assistance². This matter was further discussed at the Ninth Session and was accompanied by recommendations for structural changes and a reduction of the work programme so as to take into consideration the immediate needs of the Mediterranean³. On the question of regional and sub-regional projects the Council noted that previous recommendations had not been implemented. Member Nations had failed to supply suitable proposals for such projects which could be carried out with the assistance of international aid programs such as the Special Fund or the United Nations Development Program. It was recognized that the GFCM could play the role of coordinator of such projects and the Council endorsed a recommendation of the Fourteenth Session of the FAO Conference that the FAO Committee on Fisheries undertake a more detailed study on how multilateral funding agencies, including the UNDP, could support research and development activities sponsored by regional fisheries bodies⁴.

8. STRUCTURE OF THE GFCM AND ORGANIZATION OF ITS WORK

The GFCM carries out its activities at periodical sessions, during which it is assisted by an Executive Committee, an Editorial Board, Technical Committees, Working Parties, and by the Secretariat. With a view to ensuring continuity of the Council's work, these subsidiary bodies have, with the exception of the steering committee, important functions to fulfill during the intervals between Council sessions. The convening and organization of the Council's sessions and the composition and terms of reference of the Council's organs will be examined in succession.

8.1 Sessions of the GFCM

8.1.1 Regular Sessions. Originally, the GFCM Agreement provided for at least one regular session of the Council in every year. The Agreement was amended on 22 May 1963 at the first Special Session of the GFCM in Rome, 21-22 May 1963, to permit the sessions to be held at intervals of two years unless otherwise directed by the majority of the Members⁵. At each session the Council, in consultation with the Director-General of FAO, considers whether a session should be held in the second year following and decides the time and place for the next session in accordance with the requirements of the Council's programmes and the terms of the invitation of the country in which the session is to be held. If the Council is unable to reach agreement it decides, in consultation with the Director-General of FAO, the calendar year in which the next session is to be held and the Chairman of the Council, in consultation with the Director-General, is then authorised to fix the time and place of the session, provided that the approval of the majority of the Members of the Council has been secured⁶. So far, sessions have been held in: Rhodes (1952), Rome (1953), Monaco (1954), Istanbul (1956), Rome (1958), Rome (1960), Madrid (1963), Rome (1965), Split (1967).

1. Report of the ACMRR Working Party on FAO Regional Fisheries Councils and Commissions, 16-21 January 1967 (ACMRR: 4/67/WP.27, 14 January 1967, pp.11, 16, 19, 20).
2. Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM, 8:13-15 Recommendation 1/65.
3. Rep. Gen. Fish. Coun. Med. 9 pp. 107, 110.
4. Ibid., 2110.
5. At its Ninth Session in 1967 the Council abolished its Technical Committees (see p. 14)
6. GFCM Agreement Article II (4);
7. GFCM Agreement Article II (4); GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule II (1).

Plenary Meetings of the Council are public unless the Council decides otherwise¹. They are presided over by the Chairman, or in his absence, by the first Vice-Chairman, or in the absence of the latter, by the second Vice-Chairman². The Chairman and Vice-Chairmen are elected by the Council and assume office immediately following the regular session at which they were elected³. In the event that both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairmen are unable to serve, the Secretary temporarily exercises their functions⁴.

8.1.2 Special Sessions. Special sessions may be called by the Chairman of the Council, at the request or with the approval of the majority of the Members. The Executive Committee, in consultation with the Director-General, decides the time and place of such a session⁵. At its 7th Session in Madrid, 12-18 March 1963, the Council decided unanimously to convene a special session to consider amendments to the GFCM Agreement and Rules of Procedure⁶. The special session was held in Rome on 21-22 May 1963⁷.

8.1.3. Voting. Members are represented at sessions of the Council by a single delegate, who may be accompanied by an alternate and by experts and advisers. Each Member Nation has one vote⁸. Voting arrangements and procedures are prescribed in detail in Rule IX of the GFCM Rules of Procedure. Where a matter is not specifically provided for, the General Rules of FAO apply "mutatis mutandis".

Decisions of the Council are taken by a majority of the votes cast, except when a greater majority is required by the GFCM Agreement or Rules of Procedure. Thus a two-thirds majority of the Council's membership is necessary to amend the Agreement, to adopt and amend the Rules of Procedure, and to admit to membership non member nations of FAO which are Members of the United Nations⁹. The unanimous assent of the Members of the Council is required when a state accepts the GFCM Agreement subject to reservations¹⁰.

8.1.4 Agenda. The agenda of each regular session must include a certain number of items, specified in the GFCM Rules of Procedure. The agenda also includes, upon approval by the Council, such items as are proposed by Members. The agenda of a special session must consist only of items relating to the purpose for which the session was called¹¹.

A provisional agenda is sent by the Secretary to Members and observer nations and organizations not less than sixty days before the date of the session¹². At the plenary session of the Council, this agenda is then proposed by the Executive Committee as a draft agenda for the consideration of the Council and serves as a basis for discussions and may be modified.

8.2 Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the GFCM consists of a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen. The Chairman and Secretary of the Council are also the Chairman and Secretary of the Executive Committee¹³.

1. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule VI.
2. Ibid., Rule VIII (2).
3. Ibid., Rule VII.
4. Ibid., Rule VIII (4).
5. Ibid., Rule II (2).
6. GFCM Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM, 7:11.
7. See Section 4 for further details concerning the 1963 Amendments to GFCM Agreement and Rules of Procedure.
8. GFCM Agreement, Article II (1 and 2).
9. GFCM Agreement, Articles II (7), VIII and IX (2).
10. GFCM Agreement, Article IX (7).
11. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule IV.
12. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule IV (3).
13. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule X (1).

The Executive Committee must meet at least once between regular sessions¹; in addition it has developed the practice of meeting before and after Council sessions. It is mainly entrusted with the task of conducting the current business of the Council between sessions; its other functions are specified in the Rules of Procedure².

8.3 Technical Committees and Working Parties

The GFCM Agreement provides for establishment of temporary, special or standing committees to study and report on matters pertaining to the purposes of the Council and working parties to study and recommend on specific technical problems³. Establishment of committees and working parties are subject to the availability of necessary funds in the FAO budget as determined by the Director-General of the FAO and a report must be laid before the Council on the financial and administrative implications involved therein⁴. The procedure of such committees and working parties are governed "mutatis mutandis" by the GFCM Rules of Procedure⁵.

The GFCM originally established five technical committees: Marine Resources⁶, Production, Utilization, Inland Waters and Economics and Statistics⁷. The first three were established at the First Session of the Council⁸ and the last two at its Second Session. Their terms of reference were determined by the Council and have already been quoted in full in Section 7.1 of this paper.

The functioning of the technical committees has not been without difficulty. Their terms of reference were so broad and general that the result was too great a diversification of activities and an inflated program of work - covering, in the case of the Eighth Session, as many as thirty subjects. As early as the Third Session of the Council, the Chairman of the Council expressed the wish that technical committees should make their programmes of work as short and precise as possible to avoid spreading effort over too wide a field⁹.

Apart from the technical committees, the Council established three Special Working Groups on Sardines, Tunas and Echo Sounders and a Joint Working Party GFCM/ICSEM. The Special Working Group on Sardines was established at the 6th Session of the Council, Rome 22-28 September 1960 and was responsible for studying the dynamics of the stocks and behaviour and management of selected species of sardines¹⁰. The Special Working Groups on Tunas and Echo Sounders were established at the 8th Session of the Council, Rome 10-15 May 1965. The former was responsible for the promotion and development of tuna research programs in the Mediterranean with particular reference to statistics of catch and effort, development of tagging programs and exploitation of potential scombroid stocks as immediate targets; the latter was to study the problems concerning the use of echo sounders in fishery research¹¹. At the Ninth Session it was proposed

1. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule X (1) (a).
2. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule X (1).
3. GFCM Agreement, Article III (1); GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule X(2).
4. GFCM Agreement, Article III (4); GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule X(3).
5. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule X(4)
6. Originally the "Exploration Committee"; the Council decided at its 5th Session, Rome 13-18 Oct. 1958, (Proceedings and Technical Papers, GFCM, 5:13) to rename it the "Marine Resources Committee".
7. Originally the "Statistical Committee"; the Council decided at its 3rd Session, Monaco, 14-19 October 1954 (Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM, 3:40) to enlarge its title to "Economic and Statistics Committee".
8. Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM, 1:2-3.
9. Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM, 3:10
10. Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM, 6:17-8.
11. Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM, 8:21-2 and 23-4.

to abolish the Technical Committees and to base the Council's program of work on selected subjects to be dealt with by Working Parties. Ad hoc working parties set up for the duration of the Ninth Session recommended the establishment of five intersessional, working parties to replace the existing Technical Committees and Working Groups. These five Working Parties are:

- Working Party on Fishery Statistics and Biological Sampling
- Working Party on Fresh, Brackish and Hypersaline Water Fisheries
- Working Party on Mediterranean Scombroid Resources
- Working Party on Demersal Resources Appraisal and Exploitation
- Working Party on the Utilization and Marketing of Fish and Fishery Products¹

Members of the Working Parties serve in their personal capacity and are elected by the Executive Committee after consultation with Member Countries and FAO. The work of each Working Party is directed by a Convenor from a Member Nation of the Council, Technical Secretariat from the FAO and the GFCM Secretary. The technical secretaries as members of the staff of FAO Department of Fisheries, serve as a link between the Working Parties and the Department, providing in this manner assistance from FAO to the Working Groups and to the Council.

The Working Party may meet between Sessions and during Council Sessions. Unlike the Technical Committees they are not permanent and are flexible in their activities and membership. It is hoped that through them a close link will be maintained between national programs and the program of work of the Council.

8.4 Editorial Board

At its Ninth Session the Council set up an Editorial Board composed of the Convenors and Technical Secretaries of Intersessional Working Parties and of the Secretary of the GFCM. The Board is responsible for selecting from the technical papers presented at each Council Session those papers to be published in the GFCM publication Studies and Reviews or in other appropriate series².

8.5 Secretariat

The Secretariat of the Council is provided by FAO³. It consists of the Secretary and such staff as may be determined by the Director-General of the Organization⁴. The Secretary to the Council is himself administratively responsible to the Director-General of FAO.

The Secretary is responsible for the preparation of the Council sessions. In particular, he must send a provisional agenda to Member and observer nations, Associate Members and organizations not less than sixty days before the date fixed for the opening of the session, together with reports and documents available in connection therewith⁵. At each session, he receives the credentials of the delegations and observers, and reports thereon for action by the Council⁶. The duties of the Secretary further include the receipt, collation and circulation of documents, reports and resolutions of the sessions of the Council and its committees, the preparation of the records of their proceedings, the certification of expenditures and financial

1. Report of the Ninth Session Gen. Fishery Council for the Mediterranean, Split (Yugoslavia) 1967, p. 107.
2. Rep. Gen. Fish. Coun. Medit., 9, p. 108.
3. GFCM Agreement, Article II (6).
4. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule V (1).
5. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule IV (3).
6. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule III.

commitments, and the performance of such other duties as the Council or the Executive Committee may direct¹. He also exercises the functions of the Chairman in the event that both the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen are unable to serve².

The activities of the Secretariat are particularly important to ensure an adequate follow-up during the intervals between sessions. The Secretary occasionally represents the Council at meetings of various international bodies. The importance of the Secretariat was underlined by the ACMRR Working Party on FAO Regional Fisheries Councils and Commissions. It was pointed out that Secretaries were key contact personnel among the Member Governments and FAO. They were there to ensure that communication between the Council Secretariat and FAO be such that every opportunity for initiative should be speedily recognized and calls for action immediately responded to. The Working Party therefore recommended that FAO take such steps as may be possible within its budget to increase the financial and staffing support available to its regional councils and that the greatest precaution be taken to ensure the suitability for council work of persons appointed as secretaries³.

9. FINANCING

According to the principles and procedures laid down by the FAO Conference at its Ninth Session (1957), bodies established under Article XIV of the FAO Constitution fall into one of three following categories:

- (a) bodies entirely financed by FAO;
- (b) bodies that, in addition to being financed by FAO, may undertake co-operative projects financed by members of the body;
- (c) bodies that, in addition to being financed by FAO, have autonomous budgets.

The GFCM belongs to the second of these categories.

9.1 Financial obligations of Members

For countries which are Member Nations or Associate Members of FAO, membership of the Council does not entail payment of any regular contribution beyond and above their contribution to the budget of FAO. It may be noted that at the Seventh Session of the FAO Conference in 1953, the difficulty of financing the Regional Fisheries Councils with their expanding activities was appreciated and it was considered that in the future the participating countries might reasonably be asked to contribute part of the costs incurred by FAO in its role as Secretariat to the bodies⁴. At its Ninth Session held in 1957, the Conference indicated again that with the increase in the number of activities of the Regional Fisheries Councils, it was apparent that the cost of servicing them should be studied, and that a policy should be recommended which would recognize the extent of FAO's role⁵. But it seems that the idea was not pursued further.

Non-member nations of FAO which are Members of the United Nations and are admitted to membership of the GFCM can participate in the activities of the Council only if they assume a proportionate share in the expenses of the Secretariat, as determined by FAO⁶. The amount of this share is fixed by the Director-General of FAO except as otherwise decided by the Conference or the Council of the Organization⁷. Monaco,

1. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule V (2).
2. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule VIII (4).
3. Report of the ACMRR Working Party on FAO Regional Fishery Councils and Commissions, ACMRR: 4/67/WP.27, 14 January 1967, pp. 7, 21, 23.
4. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, vol. 7:79, par. 153.
5. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, vol. 9:102, par. 260.
6. GFCM Agreement, Article IX (3).
7. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, vol. 11:82, par. 548.

which is neither a member of the FAO nor of the United Nations, makes a special contribution of U.S. \$100,00 per annum toward the expenses of the GFCM Secretariat¹.

The expenses of delegates and their alternates, experts and advisers occasioned by attendance at sessions of the GFCM and the expenses of representatives on committees or working parties are determined and paid by their respective governments².

In addition, the expenses incurred in connection with co-operative research or development projects which are recommended by the Council to its Members or undertaken by the Council are determined and paid by the Members in the form and proportion to which they mutually agree. Prior to implementation, co-operative projects must be submitted to the Council of FAO. Contribution for such projects are then paid into a trust fund to be established by FAO and are administered by the Organization in accordance with its financial regulations and rules³.

So far, no co-operative projects have been carried out and financed out of a trust fund so established. It should be noted, however, that the procedure described above is not mandatory and that Article VII (4) of the GFCM Agreement lays it down for cases where expenses are not "otherwise available". In its report to the Seventh Session of the Council, the Executive Committee proposed that in order to make the Council more useful to member countries, the Council should adopt those measures allowing it to have a fund independent from the budget of the FAO. This would cover necessary expenses and enable it to undertake studies, research, practical and experimental work of interest to more than two member countries of the GFCM. Information and publication expenses not covered by the budget of FAO could also be paid from this fund. However, this proposal was not taken up by the Council. Instead a motion was adopted unanimously to the effect that the Director-General of FAO consider making available to the GFCM the necessary funds not only to cover normal expenditure, but also the implementation of the program of work of the GFCM⁴.

9.2 Financial obligations of FAO

The expenses of the Secretariat, including publications and communications, and of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council when performing duties connected with its work during intervals between the sessions, are determined and paid by FAO⁵. With respect to such expenses, the GFCM approves at each session a proposed budget for the next two succeeding financial years and forwards it to the Director-General of FAO for consideration in the preparation of the general budget estimates of the Organization. When adopted by the FAO Conference in its biennial sessions as part of the general budget of the Organization, the budget of the GFCM constitutes the limits within which funds may be committed for purposes approved by the Conference. It is normally divided up into four items, i.e. Executive Committee travel, printing, meeting and miscellaneous, and presently amounts to a few thousand dollars per year⁶.

This budget, however, does not cover all expenses incurred by FAO in servicing the GFCM. Thus, it does not include the post of Secretary to the Council, the servicing of the technical committees by FAO officers detailed from Headquarters and the posts of other FAO fisheries officers and consultants in the region. It should be pointed out that there is indeed a close relationship between the Council's activities and FAO work in the region. At its Twelfth Session held in 1963, the FAO Conference endorsed the Director-General's proposal to strengthen regional work in the field of fisheries by the engagement of consultants to assist the Regional Fisheries Councils and Commissions and by outposting more technical staff to the regions⁷.

1. See Section 5.1 regarding Monaco's status.
2. GFCM Agreement, Article VII (1).
3. GFCM Agreement, Article VII (4).
4. Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM, 7:13.
5. GFCM Agreement, Article VII (2).
6. The funds allotted for the 1964/65 biennium amounted to US\$ 11,500.
7. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, vol. 12:32, par. 155.

In addition, the expenses of experts invited, with the concurrence of the Director-General of FAO, to attend meetings of the Council, committees or working parties in their individual capacity are borne by the budget of FAO¹.

The GFCM is also dependent on FAO for convening the committees and working parties referred to in the preceding section. The establishment of such committees and working parties is subject to the availability of the necessary funds in the relevant chapter of the approved budget of FAO; the determination of availability of funds is made by the Director-General of the Organization. Before taking any decision involving expenditures in connection with the establishment of committees and working parties, the Council must have before it a report from the Director-General on the administrative and financial implications thereof².

As a general principle, all recommendations of the GFCM having financial implications for FAO must be brought by the Director-General to the attention of the Conference through the Council of FAO for appropriate action³.

10. LIAISON WITH INTERNATIONAL BODIES

10.1 General

The GFCM Agreement provides that the Council shall co-operate closely with other international bodies in matters of mutual interest⁴. From the outset the Council has been aware of the importance of collaboration largely as a result of the historical legacy in the existence in the Mediterranean area of the International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea (ICSEM). At the Rome Meeting in 1949, called to establish the GFCM, the danger of overlapping of the activities of these two bodies was pointed out and delegates agreed that the rules of procedure for the Council should provide for full liaison and close co-operation with international organizations⁵. On several other occasions the question has been considered. At its First Session in Rhodes, 21-24 July 1952, the Council decided to co-operate with other international organizations dealing with oceanographic and limnological problems and, particularly with ICSEM⁶. Thereafter, each Session of the Council has discussed this matter as one of the items on its agenda and on which the Secretary is required to report on. Special emphasis has been attached to relations with other international bodies covering the Mediterranean area.

The FAO Conference has itself noted that it was important that FAO regional bodies co-operate fully with other regional bodies in the same fields in order to reduce duplication⁷. At several of its Sessions the question of co-operation with international organizations, both governmental and non-governmental, has been examined and principles and guiding lines laid down in the matter⁸. Participation of international organizations

1. GFCM Agreement, Article VII (5).
2. GFCM Agreement Article III (4).
3. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule XIV (5).
4. GFCM Agreement, Article VI.
5. Report of the FAO Meeting on proposed Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean, Rome, 19-24 September 1949 (FAO, 49.9/709 revised).
6. Proceedings and Technical Papers. GFCM, 1:3.
7. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, 5:21.
8. FAO Basic Texts, Volume II, Sections II and V.

in the work of the Council and its relations with such organizations are governed by the relevant provisions of the Constitution and General Rules of FAO as well as the said principles and guiding lines¹. They provide that all such relations are dealt with by the Director-General of the Organization².

The FAO Council's Committee on Fisheries and the Advisory Committee on Marine Resources Research (ACMRR) have also given their attention to the problems of co-ordination and collaboration among fishery bodies³. In particular, the ACMRR's Working Party on FAO Regional Fisheries Councils and Commissions at its Meeting in Rome, 9-13 January 1967, made recommendations intended to bring about improvements in the relations between GFCM and ICSEM and reducing the impulse towards fragmentation of activities in the Mediterranean area⁴.

In practice the form of co-operation between the GFCM and other international bodies has varied and may include reciprocal representation at meetings by accredited observers, exchange of publications, important personal contacts⁵. However relations with some bodies, especially those in the Mediterranean, are of such significance as to require special mention. With regard to non-Mediterranean bodies, the Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council (IPFC) and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) may be mentioned.

10.2 International bodies having a special interest in the Mediterranean and contiguous areas

The co-ordination of efforts of fisheries bodies based on a workable and efficient system of collaboration is particularly pressing in the Mediterranean area. The ACMRR Working Party on FAO Regional Fisheries Councils and Commissions noted that the dissipation of efforts in marine and fisheries science between the diverse organizations covering the area, and the rugged individualism of some of the Mediterranean scientists have weakened rather than strengthened research in the area. In particular the GFCM had been hampered in the extremely valuable role it could play in the area and it was urged that steps be taken to improve relations between these bodies and to reduce the impulse towards fragmentation of activities⁶.

The bodies whose relations with the GFCM are examined in this section are: the International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean (ICSEM), the European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission (EIFAC), the Joint Commission for Black Sea Fisheries, Unesco with its Inter-governmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC), and the Mediterranean Association for Marine Biology and Oceanology (MAMBO).

1. FAO Basic Texts, Volume II, Section VII, para. 28.
2. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule XII (1).
3. Report of the Second Session of the Committee on Fisheries, Rome, 24-29 April 1967 (CL/48/7; 9 May 1967); Report of the 1st Session of the ACMRR, Rome, 28 January - 2 February 1963, FAO Fisheries Report No. 14, p.11; Report of the 2nd Session of the ACMRR, Rome, 6-12 February 1964, FAO Fisheries Reports No. 20, p.13; Report of the Third Session of the ACMRR, Rome, 1-8 March 1965, FAO Fisheries Report No.23.
4. Report of the ACMRR Working Party on FAO Regional Fisheries Councils and Commissions, Rome, 16-21 January 1967 (ACMRR: 4/67/WP.27, 14 January 1967).
5. The GFCM has in the past collaborated with:
United Nations, UNESCO, WHO, WMO, IMCO, OECD, European Economic Community, Council of Europe, International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, Indo-Pacific Fisheries Council, International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, Scientific Committee on Oceanic Research of the International Council of Scientific Unions, International Association on Theoretical and Applied Limnology, International Biological Programme, International Association of Physical Oceanography, Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, and Research Centre on the Meteorology of the Mediterranean.
6. Report of the ACMRR Working Party on FAO Regional Fisheries Councils and Commissions, Rome, 16-21 January 1967 (ACMRR: 4/67/WP.27, 14 January 1967).

10.2.1 International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea. The International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean (ICSEM), established in November 1919, has as its area of competence the Mediterranean Sea and adjacent waters. It is concerned with the various branches of marine science and promotes oceanographic studies. Except for Romania, all its members are members of the GFCM. There is consequently a real possibility of duplication of work and overlapping of functions and this has been realised from the earliest days of the GFCM's existence.

The FAO in its report to the Ninth Session of the Economic and Social Council of the UN (ECOSOC) notified the Council of its intention to promote the establishment of the GFCM. At that time ICSEM had not resumed its activities which had been interrupted in 1938. ECOSOC in the exercise of its functions as a co-ordinating body under Article 63(2) of the Charter of the UN considered the possible termination, abolition or integration of ICSEM at its Ninth and Tenth Sessions and recommended that UN Members which were also members of the ICSEM should take steps to terminate that organization ¹. At its Eleventh Session, it requested a further report from FAO on the progress made concerning FAO's negotiations with ICSEM ².

At the Rome Meeting in September 1949 which formulated the text of the GFCM Agreement, the relationship between the GFCM and ICSEM was discussed. The French delegation's view was that ICSEM was still in existence and that it should be reconvened. As a result ICSEM was re-activated at the initiative of the French Government and held its Twelfth Session in Paris from 28 February to 1st March 1951. There, at the request of the Cyprus delegation, a vote was taken on whether the ICSEM should be abolished or not and the majority voted in favour of continuation of its activities ³. Shortly after this, the GFCM at its first Session in Rhodes, 21-24 July 1952, agreed to co-operate closely with ICSEM and to establish a Liaison Committee for that purpose ⁴. This liaison committee never seems to have met.

In October 1954, both the GFCM and ICSEM held their plenary sessions in the Principality of Monaco. An ad-hoc committee, composed of representatives of both bodies and of the FAO, established to define the responsibility of each body, drew up an agreement which was adopted ⁵. The Agreement (reproduced as Annex II to the present paper) drew a distinction between the ICSEM's activities "directed towards general oceanographic problems not necessarily of economic interest", and the GFCM's primary interest in "the results of biological and physiographic researches directly applicable to fisheries". It established a Joint Committee to discuss and co-ordinate the programmes according to the scope and respective functions of the two organizations. The joint committee was empowered to analyse the results of the work submitted to the GFCM or ICSEM concerning marine biology and oceanography and separate matters of practical interest to fisheries which would go to the GFCM while the rest would be channelled to ICSEM. Either body could request that the other include items of research in its programme. Their plenary sessions were to take place, as far as possible, in the same city and on consecutive dates. The joint committee met in October 1954, September 1956 and April 1957. However, at this last meeting, the committee recognized that it was difficult to establish a precise line of demarcation of competence between the GFCM and ICSEM and agreed that certain matters were of interest to both of them.

1. United Nations, Report of the Economic and Social Council (16 August 1949 - 16 August 1950), New York, 1950, pp. 108-109; Economic and Social Council Official Records, 9th Session, 5 July-15 August 1949, Geneva, Supplement No. 1, Resolution 262 (IX)X, p. 80; Economic and Social Council, Official Records, 10th Session, 7 February-6 March 1950, New York, Resolution 286 (X), p. 21.
2. United Nations, Report of the Economic and Social Council (16 August 1950 - 21 September 1951) Geneva, 1951, p. 140; Economic and Social Council, Official Records, 11th Session, 3 July - 16 August 1950, Geneva, Supplement No. 1, Resolution 333 (XI) F, p. 80.
3. CIBSM, Rapp. Comm.int.Mer Medit., 12:27. There were two votes in favour of abolishing ICSEM (Cyprus and Lebanon) and nine votes against, Egypt, Greece and Yugoslavia indicating however that ICSEM should continue its activities subject to collaboration with the FAO.
4. Proceedings and Technical Papers, GFCM, 1:12.
5. Proceedings and Technical Papers, GFCM, 3:17-9.

At its Ninth Session in Split in December 1967, a new effort was made by the GFCM to establish a more efficient collaboration with ICSEM. At this session the Council adopted a recommendation proposing that collaboration between both these organizations be reactivated and improved. As a first step in this direction, it recommended that the Executive Committee and the Secretariat explored the possibility of the GFCM participating at a symposium on Plankton to be held by the ICSEM during the two days preceding the ICSEM Plenary Assembly in Monaco in October 1968. The Council considered that such a mandate to participating should, at a later stage, lead to exploration with ICSEM to other ways and means of ensuring wider and more efficient collaboration.¹

In the past the collaboration between GFCM and ICSEM has taken the form of reciprocal representation at sessions, contact at secretariat level, exchange of publications. Joint publications have also been discussed following an ACMRR proposal at its First Session that a joint working party of both these bodies should be established to prepare a synopsis on the oceanography of the Mediterranean². Mention should also be made of a joint Symposium on Migratory Species which was held without success on 20 October 1958, in Monaco.

10.2.2 European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission (EIFAC). The European Inland Fisheries Advisory Commission was set up as an FAO regional body under Article VI (1) of the FAO Constitution³. The objectives and purpose of EIFAC are to promote improvements to inland fisheries and to advise member countries and FAO on inland fisheries matters. Its membership is open to all European Member Nations of FAO and its area of competence is the inland waters of Member countries⁴.

The possibility of the overlapping of functions between both organizations arises from the fact that GFCM has (as evidenced by its establishment of a Technical Committee for Inland Waters at its 2nd Session in 1953) always interested itself in inland fisheries although the GFCM nowhere specifically includes inland waters in its area of competence but merely describes the said area as the "Mediterranean and contiguous waters". The matter of relation between EIFAC and GFCM was raised by the FAO Conference at its Thirteenth Session and it invited the Director-General to examine whether there was any possible overlap of functions between these two bodies and, if necessary, to make proposals for revision of their terms of reference⁵. EIFAC gave the matter further consideration at its Fourth Session in Belgrade in May 1966 and expressed the view that it should be the leading FAO body in Europe concerned with inland fisheries and fish culture as it represented 19 of the 24 European countries while the GFCM represented only eleven⁶. However, as eight member countries of the GFCM were not members of EIFAC and as the faunal and climatic conditions prevailing in these countries influence fisheries differently, it would be necessary for GFCM to maintain an inland waters committee with more specific functions⁷.

1. Report of Ninth Session of the GFCM (Split) 1967, Appendix L, Resolution GFCM No 4/67.
2. The first meeting of this working party took place from 26-29 October 1967, during the 19th Plenary Assembly of ICSEM.
3. Report of the Council of FAO, 26th Session, 3-14 June 1957, paras. 9, 10, Resolution No. 2/26
4. Ibid
5. Rep. Sess. Conf. FAO, vol. 13:49, par. 251
6. Members of EIFAC as of 1 September 1967 were as follows:
Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany (Federal Republic of), Greece, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United Kingdom, Yugoslavia.
7. Rep. Sess. Eur. Inld. Fish. Advis. Comm., 4:19

The Executive Committee of the GFCM, at its 36th Meeting, Rome, 9-11 January 1967, endorsed the conclusions of EIFAC and requested the GFCM Secretariat to recommend to the 9th Session of the GFCM the establishment of a working group on fresh-water fisheries in the Southern Mediterranean. At its Ninth Session, the Council accepted this recommendation and established a Working Party on Fresh, Brackish and Hypersaline Water Fisheries. In order to avoid duplication between activities of EIFAC and those of the GFCM in the field of inland fisheries, the activities of the Council are to be limited to problems of the brackish and hypersaline water fisheries of the Mediterranean region as a whole and the inland fisheries of the GFCM member nations which are not members of EIFAC. Close liaison with EIFAC is insured by nominating the technical secretariat of the Working Group from the FAO Inland Fishery Branch. In addition, GFCM member nations not members of EIFAC, are to be invited to EIFAC Sessions and the documentation is to be made available to them.¹

10.2.3 Joint Commission for Black Sea Fisheries. The Joint Commission for Black Sea Fisheries was set up by the Convention Concerning Fishing in the Black Sea of 7 July 1959. Membership is open to Black Sea states other than signatory states². The geographic area and species covered are the Black Sea and all fishery resources therein. The terms of reference of the Joint Commission include working out co-ordinated measures for regulating fishing in order to conserve fishery resources and increase the production, and also for developing the techniques of commercial fishing; introducing amendments to the provision of the Convention concerning minimum sizes of fish that may be caught; co-ordinating the planning of scientific research projects; determining the nature and extent of statistical and other data to be furnished by member countries; exchanging information concerning the application of the Convention; and examining other matters referred to it by member countries.

The Joint Commission makes recommendations to its member countries and also has the power to take decisions with respect to minimum sizes of fish. As an organization responsible for a restricted sea area within the same geographic zone as the Mediterranean, the problems confronted and the species covered are somewhat similar to those of the GFCM. However, unlike the GFCM, the tendency has been to concentrate on development and research projects and less on the theoretical aspects of marine science. So far there has been little or no contact between the GFCM and the Joint Commission.

10.2.4 Unesco. Unesco and its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission and the Council send to each other invitations to their sessions. GFCM is represented by an observer at Unesco/IOC sessions when they discuss Mediterranean matters. Unesco, through its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission shows interest in the Mediterranean: an Inter-Regional Meeting of Experts on Cooperative Oceanographic Studies of the South Mediterranean and the Levant was sponsored by Unesco in Split (Yugoslavia) in December 1965 to discuss a project for a cooperative study of the prevailing conditions in the Mediterranean, particularly those concerned with the Atlantic Current. At its Ninth Session in Split (Yugoslavia) in December 1967, the Council agreed to give support and to cooperate in the study and promote participation of its member countries. By Resolution No 4/67, it recognized that this study was of great and practical value and agreed to nominate experts to the joint IOC/ICSEM/GFCM International Group of Scientific coordination responsible for this cooperative study, and an Assistant International Coordinator from these experts responsible for fisheries aspects of the study. It also nominated the Secretary of the GFCM and the Director of the Fishery Resources and Exploitation Division of the FAO Department of Fisheries, as its representatives for the Group for Technical Coordination composed of representatives of IOC, ICSEM and GFCM Secretariats³.

1. Report of the Ninth Session of the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean, (Split) 1967, p. 109, Appendix K.

2. Present members are: Bulgaria, Rumania, USSR.

3. Rep. gen. Fish. Coun. Medit., 9, p. 109, Appendices L, M.

10.2.5 Mediterranean Association for Marine Biology and Oceanology (MAMBO). The Mediterranean Association for Marine Biology and Oceanology (MAMBO) is a non-governmental association of laboratories, research groups, scientists and research workers, established in 1964. Its basic objective is to promote and develop international co-operation in marine research, in the improvement of the equipment and in the exchange of data, and to concern itself with education and training facilities. It intends to delineate those marine biological problems that are presently not being sponsored adequately by existing national or international bodies and to activate these problems mainly through reliance on marine biological stations.

So far its programme of work has consisted of methodology courses held in Malta, the Lebanon, Israel and Turkey.

The GFCM which maintains contact with the Association was present at its inaugural session in November 1964 and is kept informed of its activities.

11. REPORTS AND PUBLICATIONS OF GFCM

The GFCM Rules of Procedure provide that the Council shall at each session approve a report embodying its views, recommendations and decisions, including, when requested, a statement of minority views ¹. At the close of each session, the conclusions and recommendations of the Council must be transmitted to the Director-General of FAO². The Council also transmits to the Director-General every two years a report embodying its views, recommendations and decisions, and makes such other reports to the Director-General as may seem necessary or desirable. Equally the reports of the Council's committees and working parties are transmitted to the Director-General through the Council ³.

With regard to the dissemination of information, the GFCM Agreement provides that one of the functions and responsibilities of the Council is to assemble, publish, or disseminate oceanographical and technical information relating to aquatic resources ⁴. At present the GFCM issues the following publications:

Proceedings and Technical Papers: Each volume of this series appears so as to coincide with Council sessions and is divided into two parts. The first part includes the proceedings of the Session previous to publication and the second part comprises the technical papers presented during the session. At its Ninth Session in Split in December 1967, the Council decided to replace this series by a Report of the Session which should include a report of the proceedings of the GFCM Sessions and reports of the Working Parties. The Technical Papers to be prepared mainly on the request of the Working Parties would henceforth be published in the GFCM Studies and Reviews ⁵. The publication of the series entitled Studies and Reviews which appears at irregular intervals was originally decided by the Executive Committee of the GFCM of 31 January to 2 February 1957 and was intended to contain the documents which could not be inserted in the GFCM Proceedings and Technical Papers but which nevertheless warranted a wider distribution.

Information Bulletin: This bulletin which appeared at irregular intervals was discontinued by the Ninth Session of the Council. It included information on the activity of the Council, articles on FAO activities in the region as well as notes on the latest development in the national fishing industry of each country and on topics of interest concerned with fisheries.

1. GFCM Rules of Procedure, Rule XIV (3).

2. See Section 7.2 for further details.

3. GFCM Agreement, Article IV (k).

4. Ibid, Article IV (c).

5. Rep.gen.Fish.Coun.Medit., 9, pp. 107-108, Appendix D.

The GFCM Circular: This circular has recently been created to meet the need to distribute information of interest to GFCM in a simple and quick manner. Their issue depends upon available information and is thus irregular.

In its discussions concerning the publications of fishery bodies, the ACMRR Working Party on FAO Regional Fisheries Councils and Commissions considered that the exchange of information was one of their vitally important activities. Provision and circulation of information should be at once comprehensive and comprehensible. It therefore recommended that the FAO and its regional bodies give the closest attention to the publications of their bodies and study certain principles formulated by the Working Party in this connection.

A N N E X I

AGREEMENT AND RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE
GENERAL FISHERIES COUNCIL FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

as amended on 22 May 1963 by the
First Special Session of the General
Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean
Rome, 21-22 May 1963

AGREEMENT

PREAMBLE

The Contracting Governments having a mutual interest in the development and proper utilization of the resources of the Mediterranean and contiguous waters, and desiring to further the attainment of their objectives through international co-operation which would be furthered by the establishment of a General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean, agree as follows:

ARTICLE I

The Council

1. The Contracting Governments hereby establish within the framework of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (hereinafter referred to as "the Organization") a Council to be known as the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean, (hereinafter referred to as "the Council"), for the purpose of exercising the functions and discharging the responsibilities set forth in Article IV below.
2. The Members of the Council shall be such Member Nations and Associate Member of the Organization and such non-member Nations of the Organization that are Members of the United Nations, which accept this Agreement in accordance with the provisions of Article IX below, it being understood that these provisions shall not affect the membership status in the Council of such nations that are not Members of the United Nations as may have become parties to this Agreement prior to 22 May 1963. As regards Associate Members, this Agreement shall, in accordance with the provisions of Article XIV-5 of the Constitution and Rule XXI-3 of the General Rules of the Organization, be submitted by the Organization to the authority having responsibility for the international relations of such Associate Members.

ARTICLE II

Organization

1. Each Member shall be represented at sessions of the Council by one delegate, who may be accompanied by an alternate and by experts and advisers. Participation in meetings of the Council by alternates, experts, and advisers shall not entail the right to vote, except in the case of an alternate who is acting in the place of a delegate during his absence.

2. Each Member shall have one vote. Decisions of the Council shall be taken by a majority of the votes cast, except as otherwise provided by this Agreement. A majority of the total membership of the Council shall constitute a quorum.
3. The Council shall elect a Chairman and two Vice-Chairmen.
4. The Chairman of the Council shall normally convene a regular session of the Council at least once every two years unless otherwise directed by a majority of the Members. The site and date of all sessions shall be determined by the Council in consultation with the Director-General of the Organization.
5. The seat of the Council shall be at the Headquarters of the Organization in Rome.
6. The Organization shall provide the Secretariat for the Council and the Director-General shall appoint its Secretary, who shall be administratively responsible to him.
7. The Council may, by a two-thirds majority of its membership, adopt and amend its own Rules of Procedure, which shall be consistent with the General Rules of the Organization. The Rules of the Council and any amendments thereto shall come into force as from the date of approval by the Director-General of the Organization, subject to confirmation by the Council of the Organization.

ARTICLE III

Committees, Working Parties and Specialists

1. The Council may establish temporary, special or standing committees to study and report on matters pertaining to the purposes of the Council and working parties to study and recommend on specific technical problems.
2. The committees and working parties referred to in paragraph 1 above shall be convened by the Chairman of the Council at such times and places as are determined by the Chairman in consultation with the Director-General of the Organization.
3. The Council may suggest to the Organization the recruitment or appointment of specialists at the expense of the Organization, for the consideration of specific questions or problems.
4. The establishment of committees and working parties referred to in paragraph 1 above and the recruitment or appointment of specialists referred to in paragraph 3 above, shall be subject to the availability of the necessary funds in the relevant chapter of the approved budget of the Organization; the determination of such availability shall be made by the Director-General of the Organization. Before taking any decision involving expenditures in connection with the establishment of committees and working parties and the recruitment or appointment of specialists, the Council shall have before it a report from the Director-General of the Organizations on the administrative and financial implications thereof.

ARTICLE IV

Functions

The Council shall have the following functions and responsibilities:

- a) to formulate all oceanographical and technical aspects of the problems of development and proper utilization of aquatic resources;
- b) to encourage and co-ordinate research and the application of improved methods employed in fishery and allied industries with a view to the utilization of aquatic resources;

- c) to assemble, publish, or disseminate all oceanographical and technical information relating to aquatic resources;
- d) to recommend to Members such national and international research and development projects as may appear necessary or desirable to fill gaps in such knowledge;
- e) to undertake, where appropriate, cooperative research and development projects directed to this end;
- f) to propose, and where necessary to adopt, measures to bring about the standardization of scientific equipment, techniques, and nomenclature;
- g) to make comparative studies of fishery legislation with a view to making recommendations to its Members respecting the greatest possible co-ordination;
- h) to encourage research into the hygiene and prevention of occupational diseases of fishermen;
- i) to extend its good offices in assisting Members to secure essential materials and equipment;
- j) to report upon such questions relating to all oceanographical and technical problems as may be recommended to it by Members or by the Organization and, if it thinks proper to do so, by other international, national or private organizations with related interests;
- k) to transmit, every two years, to the Director-General of the Organization, a report embodying its views, recommendations and decisions, and make such other reports to the Director-General of the Organization as may seem to it necessary or desirable. Reports of the committees and working parties of the Council provided for in Article III of this Agreement shall be transmitted to the Director-General of the Organization through the Council.

ARTICLE V

Region

The Council shall carry out the functions and responsibilities set forth in Article IV in the region as referred to in the Preamble.

ARTICLE VI

Co-operation with International Organizations

The Council shall co-operate closely with other international organizations in matters of mutual interest.

ARTICLE VII

Expenses

1. The expenses of delegates and their alternates, experts and advisers occasioned by attendance at sessions of the Council and the expenses of representatives sent to committees or working parties established in accordance with Article III of this Agreement shall be determined and paid by their respective governments.

2. The expenses of the Secretariat, including publications and communications and the expenses incurred by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council, when performing duties on behalf of the Council between Council sessions, shall be determined and paid by the Organization within the limits of the relevant appropriations provided for in the budget of the Organization.
3. The expenses of research and development projects undertaken by individual Members of the Council, whether independently or upon recommendation of the Council, shall be determined and paid by the governments concerned.
4. The expenses incurred in connection with co-operative research or development projects undertaken in accordance with the provisions of Article IV, paragraphs (d) and (e) unless otherwise available shall be determined and paid by the Members in the form and proportion to which they shall mutually agree. Co-operative projects shall be submitted to the Council of the Organization prior to implementation. Contributions for co-operative projects shall be paid into a trust fund to be established by the Organization and shall be administered by the Organization in accordance with the Financial Regulations and rules of the Organization.
5. The expenses of experts invited, with the concurrence of the Director-General, to attend meetings of the Council, committees or working parties in their individual capacity shall be borne by the budget of the Organization.

ARTICLE VIII

Amendments

The General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean may amend this Agreement by a two-thirds majority of all the Members of this Council, any amendment becoming effective only after concurrence of the Council of the Organization unless the latter considers it desirable to refer the amendment to the Conference of the Organization for approval. An amendment shall become effective as from the date of the decision of the Council or Conference of the Organization, as appropriate. However, any amendment involving new obligations for Members shall come into force with respect to each Member only on acceptance of it by that Member. The instruments of acceptance of amendments involving new obligations shall be deposited with the Director-General of the Organization who shall inform all the Members of the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean, as well as the Secretary-General of the United Nations, of the receipt of acceptances and the entry into force of such amendments. The rights and obligations of any Member of the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean that has not accepted an amendment involving additional obligations shall continue to be governed by the provisions of this Agreement as they stood prior to the amendment.

ARTICLE IX

Acceptance

1. This Agreement shall be open to acceptance by Member Nations or Associate Members of the Organization.
2. The Council may, by a two-thirds majority of its membership, admit to membership such other nations that are Members of the United Nations and have submitted an application for membership and a declaration made in a formal instrument that they accept this Agreement as in force at the time of admission.
3. Participation in the activities of the Council by Members of the Council which are not Members or Associate Members of the Organization shall be contingent upon the assumption of such proportionate share in the expenses of the Secretariat as may be determined in the light of the relevant provisions of the Financial Regulations of the Organization.

4. Acceptance of this Agreement by any Member Nation or Associate Member of the Organization shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of acceptance with the Director-General of the Organization and shall take effect on receipt of such instrument by the Director-General.
5. Acceptance of this Agreement by non-member nations of the Organization shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument of acceptance with the Director-General of the Organization. Membership shall become effective on the date on which the Council approves the application for membership, in conformity with the provisions of paragraph 2 of this Article.
6. The Director-General of the Organization shall inform all Members of the Council, all Member Nations of the Organization and the Secretary-General of the United Nations of all acceptances that have become effective.
7. Acceptance of this Agreement may be made subject to reservations which shall become effective only upon unanimous approval by the Members of the Council. The Director-General of the Organization shall notify forthwith all Members of the Council of any reservations. Members of the Council not having replied within three months from the date of the notification shall be deemed to have accepted the reservation. Failing such approval, the nation making the reservation shall not become a party to this Agreement.

ARTICLE X

Entry into force

This Agreement shall enter into force as from the date of receipt of the fifth instrument of acceptance.

ARTICLE XI

Territorial Application

The Members of the Council shall, when accepting this Agreement, state explicitly to which territories their participation shall extend. In the absence of such a declaration, participation shall be deemed to apply to all the territories for the international relations of which the Member is responsible. Subject to the provisions of Article XII below, the scope of the territorial application may be modified by a subsequent declaration.

ARTICLE XII

Withdrawal

1. Any Member may withdraw from this Agreement at any time after the expiration of two years from the date upon which the Agreement entered into force with respect to that Member, by giving written notice of such withdrawal to the Director-General of the Organization who shall immediately inform all the Members of the Council and the Member Nations of the Organization of such withdrawal. Notice of withdrawal shall become effective three months from the date of its receipt by the Director-General.
2. A Member of the Council may give notice of withdrawal with respect to one or more of the territories for the international relations of which it is responsible. When a Member gives notice of its own withdrawal from the Council it shall state to which territory or territories the withdrawal is to apply. In the absence of such a declaration, the withdrawal shall be deemed to apply to all the territories for the international relations of which the Member of the Council is responsible, with the exception of Associate Members.

3. Any Member of the Council that gives notice of withdrawal from the Organization shall be deemed to have simultaneously withdrawn from the Council, and this withdrawal shall be deemed to apply to all the territories for the international relations of which the Member concerned is responsible, except that such withdrawal shall not be deemed to apply to an Associate Member.

ARTICLE XIII

Interpretation and Settlement of Disputes

Any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of this Agreement, if not settled by the Council, shall be referred to a committee composed of one member appointed by each of the parties to the dispute, and in addition an independent chairman chosen by the members of the committee. The recommendations of such a committee, while not binding in character, shall become the basis for renewed consideration by the parties concerned of the matter out of which the disagreement arose. If, as the result of this procedure, the dispute is not settled, it shall be referred to the International Court of Justice in accordance with the Statute of the Court, unless the parties to the dispute agree to another method of settlement.

ARTICLE XIV

Termination

This Agreement shall be automatically terminated if and when, as the result of withdrawals, the number of Members of the Council drops below five, unless the remaining Members unanimously decide otherwise.

ARTICLE XV

Certification and Registration

The text of this Agreement was originally formulated at Rome on the 24th day of September one thousand nine hundred and fortynine in the French language. Two copies in the English, French and Spanish languages of this Agreement as amended on the 22nd day of May one thousand nine hundred and sixtythree by the First Special Session of the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean, shall after approval by the Council or Conference of the Organization, as appropriate, be certified by the Chairman of the Conference or Council of the Organization and by the Director-General of the Organization. One of these copies shall be deposited in the archives of the Organization. The other copy shall be transmitted to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for registration. In addition, the Director-General shall certify copies of this Agreement and transmit one copy to each Member Nation of the Organization and to such non-member nations of the Organization that have or may become parties to this Agreement.

RULES OF PROCEDURE

RULE I

For the purpose of these Rules, the following definitions apply:

- Agreement:** The Agreement for the establishment of the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean formulated at Rome, Italy, 24 September 1949 as amended in conformity with Article VIII thereof.
- Council:** The General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean.
- Chairman:** The Chairman of the Council.
- Vice-Chairman:** The Vice-Chairman of the Council.
- Delegate:** The representative of a Member as specified in Article II, paragraph 1, of the Agreement.
- Delegation:** The delegate and his alternate, experts, and advisers.
- Member:** Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization and non-member nations of the Organization, as may be Members of the Council.
- Secretary:** The Secretary of the Council.
- Organization:** The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.
- Conference:** The Conference of the Organization.
- Director-General:** The Director-General of the Organization.
- Observer Nation, Associate Member, or Organization:** A nation that is not a Member of the Council or of the Organization, or an international organization invited to attend a session of the Council, or a Member Nation or Associate Member of the Organization attending a session of the Council while not a Member of the Council.
- Observer:** The representative of an observer nation or organization.

RULE II

Sessions of the Council

1. In pursuance of, and in accordance with, Article II, paragraph 4 of the Agreement, the Council, in consultation with the Director-General, shall at each regular session consider whether a session should be held within two years and shall decide the time and place for the next session in accordance with the requirements of the Council's programs and the terms of the invitation of the country in which the session is to be held. The Chairman, accordingly, shall issue the announcement of the session, provided that, if the Council at a regular session is unable to fix a time and place for the next session, it shall, in consultation with the Director-General, take a decision as to the calendar year in which the next session is to be held, and the Chairman, in consultation with the Director-General, is then authorized to fix the time and place of the session provided that the approval of a majority of the Members of the Council has been secured.

2. The Chairman may convene a special session of the Council at the request or with the approval of the majority of the Members. The Executive Committee, in consultation with the Director-General, shall decide the time and place of such a session.

3. Invitations to a regular session of the Council shall be issued by the Secretary on behalf of the Chairman not less than sixty days in advance of the date fixed for the opening of the session. Invitations to special sessions shall be issued not less than forty days in advance of the date fixed for the opening of the session.

4. In order that a proposal to hold a session of the Council or any of its organs, in a given country, may be considered, such country must have (a) ratified without reservation the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies of the United Nations, or (b) given the assurance that all delegates, representatives, experts, observers, or other persons entitled to attend such session in accordance with the terms of the Agreement or these Rules, will enjoy the privileges and immunities necessary for the independent exercise of their function in connection with the session.

RULE III

Credentials

At each session the Secretary shall receive the credentials of delegations and observers. Such credentials shall conform to the standard form set by the Secretariat. Upon examination thereof the Secretariat shall report to the Council for the necessary action.

RULE IV

Agenda

1. The agenda of each regular session shall include:

- a) election of the Chairman and of two Vice-Chairmen as provided under Article II, paragraph 3 of the Agreement;
- b) adoption of the agenda;
- c) a report by the Executive Committee on its activities, including a report of the work performed on behalf of the Council by the Secretariat;
- d) a report by the Secretary on the financial affairs of the Council;
- e) consideration of the proposed budget;
- f) reports of committees;
- g) consideration of the time and place of the next session;
- h) proposals for amendments to the Agreement and the present Rules of Procedure;
- i) applications for membership, in accordance with Article IX, paragraph 2 of the Agreement, from nations which while not Members of the Organization, are Members of the United Nations;
- j) items referred to the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean by the Conference, the Council or the Director-General of the Organization.

2. The agenda shall also include, upon approval by the Council:
 - a) items approved at the previous session;
 - b) items proposed by the Executive Committee;
 - c) items proposed by a Member.
3. The provisional agenda shall be sent by the Secretary to Members and observer nations and organizations not less than sixty days before the date of the session, together with reports and documents available in connection therewith.
4. The agenda of a special session shall consist only of items relating to the purpose for which the session was called.

RULE V

The Secretariat

1. The Secretariat shall consist of the Secretary and such staff responsible to him as may be determined by the Director-General.
2. The duties of the Secretary shall include the receipt, collation, and circulation of documents, reports, and resolutions of the sessions of the Council and its committees, the record of their proceedings, the certification of expenditures and financial commitments, and the performance of such other duties as the Council or Executive Committee may direct.
3. Copies of all communications concerning the affairs of the Council shall be sent to the Secretary for purposes of information and record.

RULE VI

Plenary Meetings of the Council

Plenary meetings of the Council shall be held in public unless otherwise decided by the Council. When the Council decides to hold a private meeting, it shall at the same time determine the scope of such a decision with respect to observers.

RULE VII

Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman

1. The Council shall, during each regular session, elect the Chairman and a first and second Vice-Chairman of the Council, who shall assume office immediately following the regular session at which they were elected.
2. Nominees must be delegates or alternates. They shall be eligible for re-election.

RULE VIII

Functions of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman

1. The Chairman shall exercise the functions conferred on him elsewhere in these Rules and, in particular, shall:
 - a) declare the opening and closing of each plenary meeting of the Council;
 - b) direct the discussions at such meetings and ensure observance of these Rules, accord the right to speak, put questions and announce decisions;

- c) rule on points of order;
 - d) subject to these Rules, have complete control over the proceedings of the session;
 - e) appoint such committees of the session as the Council may direct.
2. In absence of the Chairman, or at his request, his functions shall be exercised by the first Vice-Chairman or, in the absence of the latter, by the second Vice-Chairman.
3. The Chairman or Vice-Chairmen, when acting as Chairman shall not vote and another member of their delegations shall represent their governments.
4. The Secretary shall temporarily exercise the functions of the Chairman in the event that the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen are unable to serve.

RULE IX

Voting Arrangements and Procedures

1. Except as provided in paragraph 4 of this Rule, voting in plenary meetings shall be oral or by show of hands, except that a vote by roll call shall be taken if a special majority is required by the Agreement or these Rules, or if a request for a vote by roll call is made by any delegation.
2. A vote by roll call shall be conducted by calling upon delegations in the French alphabetical order.
3. The record of any roll call vote shall show the votes cast by each delegate and any abstention.
4. Voting on matters relating to individuals, except the election of officers, shall be by secret ballot.
5. When no nominee for an office obtains on the first ballot a majority of the votes cast, there shall be taken a second ballot confined to the two candidates obtaining the largest number of votes. If, on the second ballot, the votes are equally divided, the Chairman shall decide between the candidates by drawing lots.
6. If the Council is equally divided when a vote is taken on a question other than election a second vote shall be taken at the next meeting of the current session. If the Council is then again equally divided, the proposal shall be regarded as rejected.
7. Voting arrangements and other related matters not specifically provided for by the Agreement, or by these Rules, shall be governed "mutatis mutandis" by the provisions of the General Rules of the Organization.

RULE X

Committees

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairman and the two Vice-Chairmen. The Chairman shall be the Chairman of the Executive Committee; the Secretary of the Council shall be the Secretary of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall:
- a) meet at least once between regular sessions;
 - b) conduct the current business of the Council between sessions;

- c) formulate resolutions to be submitted to the Council in connection with items referred to in Rule IV, paragraph 2(b);
 - d) prepare estimates of expenses for the next financial period for presentation to the Council for submission to the Organization, in the light of the provisions of Article VII, paragraph 2, of the Agreement;
 - e) co-ordinate the work of the committees and working parties;
 - f) function as an editorial and publication committee.
- 2. The Council may establish such other committees and working parties as it considers desirable.
 - 3. The establishment of committees and working parties referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 above shall be subject to the provisions of Article III, paragraph 4 of the Agreement.
 - 4. The procedures of such committees and working parties shall be governed "mutatis mutandis" by the Rules of Procedure of the Council.

RULE XI

Budget and Finance

- 1. Except as otherwise provided in these Rules, the Financial Regulations of the Organization, as amplified by the Administrative Manual and memoranda and the procedures based thereon, shall apply to the Council.
- 2. A proposed budget of the Council for the next succeeding financial period consisting of proposed expenses of the secretariat, including publications and communications, the proposed travelling expenses of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen, when engaged in the work of the Council between the sessions, and the expenses, if any, of the committees, shall after approval by the Council be submitted to the Director-General for consideration in the preparation of the general budget estimates of the Organization.
- 3. When adopted by the Conference as part of the general budget of the Organization, the budget of the Council shall constitute the limits within which funds may be committed for purposes approved by the Conference.
- 4. All co-operative projects shall be submitted to the Council or the Conference of the Organization prior to implementation.

RULE XII

Participation by Observers

- 1. Participation of international organizations in the work of the Council and the relations between the Council and such organizations shall be governed by the relevant provisions of the Constitution and the General Rules of the Organization, as well as by the rules on relations with international organizations adopted by the Conference or Council of the Organization. All such relations shall be dealt with by the Director-General of the Organization.
- 2. Members and Associate Members of the Organization that are not Members of the Council may, upon their request, be represented by an observer at sessions of the Council and its subsidiary bodies.

3. Nations that are not Members of the Council, nor Members or Associate Members of the Organization, but are Members of the United Nations may, upon request, and with the approval of the Council of the Organization and of the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean, attend sessions of the latter Council and its subsidiary bodies in an observer capacity, in accordance with the Statement of Principles adopted by the Conference relating to the granting of observer status to nations.

4. Unless the Council expressly determines otherwise, observers may attend the plenary meetings of the Council and participate in the discussions at any technical committee sessions which they may be invited to attend. In no case will they be entitled to vote.

RULE XIII

Co-operative Projects

In the furtherance of co-operative projects provided for in Article IV (d) and (e) of the Agreement, and of studies undertaken outside the region referred to in the Preamble of the Agreement, arrangements may be made with Governments that are not members of the Council. All such arrangements shall be made by the Director-General of the Organization.

RULE XIV

Records, Reports and Recommendations

1. Summary records shall be made of each plenary meeting of the Council and each committee meeting, and shall be distributed as soon as possible to the participants.

2. A summary shall be prepared of the proceedings of each session of the Council and shall be published together with such reports of committees, technical papers, and other documents as the Executive Committee may consider advisable.

3. At each session the Council shall approve a report embodying its views, recommendations, resolutions and decisions, including, when requested, a statement of minority views.

4. The conclusions and recommendations of the Council shall be transmitted to the Director-General of the Organization at the close of each session, who shall circulate them to Members of the Council, nations and international organizations that were represented at the session and make them available to other Member Nations and Associate Members of the Organization for their information.

5. Recommendations having policy, program or financial implications for the Organization shall be brought by the Director-General to the attention of the Conference through the Council of the Organization for action.

6. Subject to the provisions of the preceding paragraph, the Chairman may request Members of the Council to supply the Council or the Director-General with information on action taken on the basis of recommendations made by the Council.

RULE XV

Recommendations to Members

1. The Council may make recommendations for action by Members on any matter pertaining to the functions described in Article IV of the Agreement.

2. The Secretary shall receive on behalf of the Council the replies of the Members in respect of such recommendations and shall prepare a summary and an analysis of such communications for presentation at the next session.

RULE XVI**Amendment to the Agreement**

1. Proposals for the amendment of the Agreement as provided by Article VIII of the Agreement may be made by any Member in a communication addressed to the Secretary. The Secretary shall transmit to all Members and to the Director-General a copy of such proposals for amendment immediately upon their receipt.
2. No action on a proposal for the amendment of the Agreement shall be taken by the Council at any session unless it has been included in the provisional agenda of the session.

RULE XVII**Suspension and Amendment of Rules**

1. Subject to the provisions of the Agreement any of the foregoing Rules, other than Rules IV, V, X, paragraphs 3 and 4, XI, XII, XIV, paragraph 4, and XVI, may be suspended on the motion of any delegation by a majority of the votes cast at any plenary meeting of the Council, provided that announcement is made at a plenary meeting of the Council and copies of the proposal for suspension have been distributed to the delegations not less than forty-eight hours before the meeting at which action is to be taken.
2. Amendments of, or additions to, these Rules may be adopted on the motion of any delegation by a two-thirds majority of the Members of the Council, at any plenary meeting of the Council, provided an announcement is made at a plenary meeting and copies of the proposal for the amendment or addition have been distributed to delegations not less than twenty-four hours before the meeting at which action is to be taken.
3. The Executive Committee may propose amendments and additions to these Rules and such proposals may be considered at the next session of the Council.
4. Any amendment to Rule XVI which may be adopted in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of this Rule, shall not become effective until the next session of the Council.

RULE XVIII

1. The official languages of the Council shall be such languages of the Organization as the Council itself may decide. The delegations may use any one of these languages at sessions and for their reports and communications. A delegation using a non-official language shall provide for interpretation into one of the official languages.
2. During the meetings, interpretation in one or more of the official languages will be provided by the Secretariat when requested by one of the delegates present.
3. Publications of reports and communications shall be in the language in which they are submitted and, when required by the Council or the Executive Committee, abstracts in translation may be published.

A N N E X I I**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION FOR THE SCIENTIFIC EXPLORATION
OF THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA AND THE GENERAL FISHERIES COUNCIL FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN****Preamble**

The General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean (hereafter designated as "the Council") in accordance with article IIIa of its Constitutive Agreement, is concerned with oceanographic problems and with the technical aspects of the development and proper utilization of aquatic resources.

The activities of the Council are at present divided between the following Committees:

- (a) Exploration (b) Production (c) Utilization (d) Inland waters
- (e) Statistics

The Exploration Committee of the Council deals with: Research in the sphere of physical oceanography and fisheries biology in accordance with a program of work and with methods suitable for the development of the exploitation of the organic and inorganic resources of the sea.

The activities of the International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea (hereafter designated as "the Commission") are directed toward general oceanographic problems not necessarily of economic interest.

The Council established under the auspices of FAO is primarily interested in the results of biological and physiographic researches which can be directly applied to fisheries. As the activities of the Committees of production, utilization, inland waters and statistics are only of indirect interest to the Commission, the only problem is to find the best way of co-ordinating the activities of the Exploration Committee of the Council and those of the Commission. In order to do so a joint committee is to be established to discuss and co-ordinate the program according to the scope and respective functions of the two organizations. At the same time this committee will analyse the results of the work submitted to the Council or to the Commission concerning the physical biology and oceanography of the Mediterranean and separate matters of practical interest to fisheries in order to channel such selections towards the Council, while the rest will be channeled toward the Commission. The committee of co-ordination will thus act as a sieve, selecting the works of biological and physical oceanography concerning the Commission or the Council in order to avoid any possible overlapping.

Agreement

1. The International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean Sea deals with all the general problems of biological and physical oceanography.
2. The Exploration Committee of the General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean deals with physical oceanography and fisheries biology with a view to a better utilization of the aquatic resources.
3. In order to co-ordinate the activities of the Commission and of the Council's Exploration Committee, a Joint Committee is created to co-ordinate and define the programs of these two organizations according to their respective functions as described in the preamble so as to ensure the collaboration of the two institutions.

4. In accordance with the spirit of Article V of the Council's agreement, either of the two institutions may request the inclusion in the program of the other of items of research which are necessary to it. In the event of one institution not being able or willing to undertake such research, the other is authorized to undertake it.

5. The Joint Committee is composed of the Chairman and the Secretary of each of the two institutions, of two qualified members named by the Commission and two named by the Council.

6. The Joint Committee will meet under the alternate chairmanship of the two Chairmen at dates fixed as necessary and invariably on the occasion of the plenary assembly of each institution.

7. If possible, the plenary meetings of these two institutions will take place in the same city and on consecutive dates in order to permit a better co-operation with minimum expenses. .

no: 11277

FAO FISHERIES TECHNICAL PAPER

This is one of a group of Technical Papers (see inside front cover) giving information concerning bibliographic and intelligence services for aquatic sciences and fisheries. Extra copies can be obtained by application to:

Biological Data Section
Fishery Resources and Exploitation Division
FAO, 00100 Rome, Italy

(Papers issued since January 1966)

FI/T41	Manual of methods for fish stock assessment - Part III. Selectivity of fishing gear	January 1966
FRm/T60	Establishment, structure, functions and activities of international fisheries bodies - III - Regional Fisheries Advisory Commission for the South West Atlantic (CARPAS)	February 1966
FRm/T62	Observations from international oceanographic expeditions relevant to tuna ecology	April 1966
FRI/T15 Rev. 1 Ad 1	A list of inland fishery workers in Europe Liste des spécialistes des questions de pêches dans les eaux intérieures en Europe	April 1966
Fib/T51 Suppl. 1	Manual of methods for fish stock assessment - Part IV - Marking Manuel sur les méthodes d'évaluation des stocks ichtyologiques - IV ^e partie - Le marquage Manual de métodos para la evaluación de los stocks de peces - Parte IV - Marcado	April 1966
FRs/T63	Report on the effects on whale stocks of pelagic operations in the Antarctic during the 1965/66 season and on the present status of those stocks	June 1966
FI/T64	International fishery bodies - Paper presented at the First Session of the Committee on Fisheries - Rome, 13-18 June 1966 Organismes Internationaux des pêches - Documents soumis à la première session du Comité des pêches - Rome, 13-18 juin 1966 Organismos pesqueros internacionales - Documentos presentados al primer período de sesiones del Comité de Pesca - Roma, 13-18 junio 1966	August 1966
FRs/T38 Rev. 1	Manual of methods for fish stock assessment - Part II - Tables of yield functions Manuel sur les méthodes d'évaluation des stocks ichtyologiques - II ^e partie - Tables des fonctions de rendement Manual de métodos para la evaluación de los stocks de peces - Parte II - Tablas de funciones de rendimiento	September 1966
FRs/T19.1 Suppl. 3	World list of periodicals for aquatic sciences and fisheries Répertoire mondial de périodiques concernant les sciences aquatiques de la pêche Lista mundial de publicaciones periódicas referentes a las ciencias acuáticas y a la pesca	November 1966
FRs/T66	The echo sounder and its use for fishermen	April 1967
FRm/T71	Fishermen and the weather	February 1968
FRm/T70	The concept of the maximum sustainable yield and fishery management	February 1968
FRs/T72	Population dynamics of the Peruvian anchoveta	February 1968
FRs/T40 Rev. 2	Manual of methods for fish stock assessment Part I. Fish population analysis	June 1968
FRs/T73	Partial bibliography on the bacterial diseases of fish	June 1968
FRs/T54	North Atlantic bibliography and citation index	June 1968
FRs/T26 Suppl. 2	Manual of sampling and statistical methods for fisheries biology. Part II - Statistical methods	July 1968
FRq/T67	An example of the process of selecting a trawl and matching it to towing power	July 1968
FR/T74	Work of FAO and related organizations concerning marine science and its applications	September 1968
FID/T77	Establishment, structure, functions and activities of international fisheries bodies - IV - Permanent Commission of the Conference on the Use and Conservation of the Marine Resources of the South Pacific	October 1968
FID/T78	Establishment, structure, functions and activities of international fisheries bodies - V - General Fisheries Council for the Mediterranean (GFCM)	October 1968

